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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/31/07

SPONSOR Robinson LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE UNM African-American Studies Program SB 385

ANALYST Guambaña

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$25.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From  
Higher Education Department (HED)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 385 appropriates \$25,000 from the General Fund to the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico (UNM) for the African-American Studies Program.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$25,000 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the General Fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY 08 shall revert to the General Fund.

According to HED, this request was not submitted by UNM to the Department for review and is not included in their funding recommendation for FY08.

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

HED maintains that the African American Studies Program at UNM offers a variety of courses specific to the literature, history, and culture of the African or Black Diaspora. The program offers an interdisciplinary baccalaureate degree, a specialized minor, and a general minor in

African American Studies. The appropriation would be used to support the delivery of educational activities and services to UNM students as well as to the local community.

**OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

HED states that UNM's African American Studies Program houses the Charlie Morrissey Research Hall which is the known as the Southwest's best repository of documents about Black people of the Southwest that includes: rare books, manuscripts, and magazines, old photographs, audio and video tapes, deeds and titles to lands, oral histories, and other archival artifacts which document the presence of Africans and African Americans in New Mexico and the Southwest in general. The Research Hall organizes public lectures and panel discussions to address the contributions of Africans and African Americans to the Southwest.

AG/mt